

Governor Ernie Fletcher  
Commonwealth of Kentucky



**NEWS RELEASE**

Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet  
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**KENTUCKY STATE NATURE PRESERVES COMMISSION TO  
HOST EDUCATIONAL HIKE THROUGH PINE CREEK BARRENS  
PRESERVE**

***Part of Earth Week celebration***

FRANKFORT, Ky. (March 26, 2007) – The Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission (KSNPC), in conjunction with the Kentucky Native Plant Society, will host an easy to moderately strenuous hike on Saturday, April 7.

KSNPC Botanist Tara Littlefield will guide 15 enthusiastic nature lovers through the Pine Creek Barrens Nature Preserve, located in Bullitt County. The hike will emphasize education on one of the rarest plants in Kentucky and the United States, the Kentucky gladecress (*Leavenworthia exigua* var. *laciniata*), as well as observing the unique dolomite limestone glade communities.

Hikers will meet at 10 a.m. at the Love's Truck Stop/Gas Station on Highway 480 located off of I-65 at exit 116. Interested persons should register by contacting Tara Littlefield at [tara.littlefield@ky.gov](mailto:tara.littlefield@ky.gov) or 502-573-2886. Registration is required. All participants are advised to bring water, snacks and hiking boots.

Information about the commission and its mission to protect Kentucky's natural heritage can be obtained by mail (KSNPC, 801 Schenkel Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601-1403), by telephone (502-573-2886 or toll free 877-214-6173) or on the Internet ([www.naturepreserves.ky.gov](http://www.naturepreserves.ky.gov)).

*Kentuckians will join others across the world in celebrating Earth Day on Sunday, April 22. Spearheaded by the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet, a number of state agencies, local governments, businesses and organizations have joined together to celebrate Earth Day in the commonwealth. Some of these partners have organized environmental activities throughout the month of April while others are providing information and resources on protecting Kentucky's environment. The state government theme for Earth Day this year will be energy.*

*This is the fourth year in a row for a month-long, organized campaign in celebration of Earth Day. Among activities planned are hikes, special events, college campus programs, environmental award presentations and demonstrations of new, environmentally friendly technology. Visit the state Earth Day Web site at [www.earthday.ky.gov](http://www.earthday.ky.gov) to learn more about Kentucky's Earth Day celebration.*